



Another  
—But A  
Better Paper

# The Century Voice

With Justice To All  
And  
Malice Toward None

NEWS JOURNAL DEDICATED TO THE DOCTRINE OF UNIVERSAL DEMOCRACY

VOLUME 2

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NO. 4

## NEGROES DONATED \$1,419.58 TO WAR FUND DRIVE

### KNIGHTS AND DAUGHTERS OF TABOR CLOSE SUCCESSFUL MEETING

Yazoo County Negroes made an excellent showing in the National War Fund Campaign, having contributed more than Fourteen Hundred Dollars (\$1400). The spirit of giving was wonderful; those who solicited reported that people contacted, gave cheerfully and willingly, expressing the desire to do more.

We are proud to note how successfully the Negroes broke down the old brand that he (the Negro) delights in being on the receiving line by the way in which they contributed to the recent National War Fund Campaign. The campaign for National War Funds had nothing to offer in return for the dollar given other than the joy of knowing you had contributed to help make conditions better and more pleasant for our fighting forces. The dollar or dollars we gave were gifts and we have our reward not at some future day, but at the moment we gave—not in our pockets, but in our hearts.

The Scripture says it is more blessed to give than to receive. Sometimes, however, we give unwillingly because someone persuades us to do so; this is not the spirit of giving that is blessed, it is the cheerful giver who receives the reward. We believe that Negroes who gave in the War Fund, were glad to give, some gave at a sacrifice and others gave liberally in proportion to their means.

The war, though one of the greatest evils of mankind, is bringing out the best there is in us. It is the acid test of our concern, of our loyalty and devotion, of our ability to shoulder obligations and responsibilities — it is the test of our manhood. If we are able to take it we will prove to the world that after we reach a certain age we are not "boys and girls" but men and women; men and women who can do man-sized jobs. To keep up with the demands that shall be made upon us, it will be necessary for us to think well before we spend a dollar, for we can't eat our cake and have it too; we cannot take our places without some cost and it will take a lot of sacrificing on our part, much more than perhaps other people have to make, but our boys will fight in vain if we are not willing to make the great sacrifice and do our part in every war effort that confronts us.

#### Using His Talent

Introducing songs of America to thousands of Welsh people and receiving tremendous ovations at each recital is Sgt. John T. Riley, Negro baritone, of 3015 West Hancock Street, Detroit, Michigan.

The Welsh are an extremely musical people themselves; their choirs out of the coal mines and from the hard-plowed field have thrilled many American servicemen with their rich, traditional songs. Their warm hospitality has also won the hearts of American soldiers.

Sgt. Riley's unit arrived in Wales from the desolation of Alaska, having helped to build the Alcan highway. Enroute to Britain they stopped in Clayborne, Louisiana, and then went up to Arkansas to fight the floods.

By day Sgt. Riley operates a giant bull-dozer, tearing at earth for foundations of American camps being built at a pace by his engineering unit. By night, in cooperation with Army Special Service and the American Red Cross, who arrange his schedule of tours in churches social halls, home and other festivals, he sings to the Welsh people.

They thrill to such powerfully sung numbers as "Ballad for Americans" and applaud time and time again for the song of Stephen Foster.

Sgt. Riley sang at the opening of the American Red Cross Club that served his unit while they were on the Alcan job. "That club was the best thing that ever happened to us lonely men in Alaska and I can't wait to sing at the dedicatory program of one of the clubs over here," he said.

The Sergeant didn't have long to wait, for by the time this reaches print a club will have been in operation, supplying the men with American-styled food, American magazines and newspapers and other services.

Sgt. Riley attended Howard University where he was a voice major; he plans to continue his singing career after the war.

#### Stops In At Century Voice Office

Warrant Officer Emmet J. Stringer was a pleasant visitor in our office a few days ago. Young Stringer has always showed unusual ability even in civilian life and now that he is in the U. S. Service he still possesses that fine characteristic of doing his best and as a result he has attained quite a high rating, one that is equal to that of 2nd Lieutenant. He volunteered his services in June, 1941, and is now serving as Personnel Officer and Assistant Adjutant of the 570th Quartermaster Battalion. We are very proud of the record this young man is making.

### Greenwood Lodges Stage Big Membership Drive

Afro-American Sons and Daughters Lodges of Greenwood, Mississippi under the leadership of the following Financial Secretaries: Mesdames Bessie Edwards, C. S. Harper, Ida Simpson, Sarah Walker, F. L. Anderson and Miss E. T. Hill, launched a big membership drive which climaxed on Sunday, November 21, 1943. Hon. T. J. Huddleston, Founder and Custodian of the Afro-American Sons and Daughters was invited to install the lodges and the installation sermon was preached by Rev. M. Peterson at Turners Chapel A.M.E. Church. A large crowd witnessed the occasion.

#### New Appointment

Rev. C. M. Webb, who pastored St. Stephen Methodist Church for the past Conference year, received a new appointment at the recent Annual Conference which convened in Jackson, Mississippi. Rev. Webb was appointed to the St. Paul Methodist Church in Meridian, Mississippi. During his stay here, the St. Stephen Church's program moved smoothly and we have every reason to believe that his work in Meridian will be successful. The St. Paul Church is in the Meridian District and is one of the leading churches of the Conference and state, and whereas we were disappointed that Rev. Webb did not return to us, we feel that the membership of St. Paul will have a splendid leader.

#### Claimed by Death

Mr. Ben Luster died, after a short illness, Wednesday, November 10, 1943 at the home of his son, Mr. William Luster. Mr. Luster was a member of Holly Green M. B. Church and was one of the oldest and best known citizens of Yazoo City. He was devoted to his family, was a good neighbor and was loved by both old and young. He was born in 1854 and reared in Yazoo County. He was eighty-four years of age at his death and his funeral was conducted from his church, with Rev. Mack Sanders and John Turner, officiating. The Century Burial Association was in charge of funeral arrangements with interment in the St. Paul cemetery. Surviving him are: his wife, six sons, Lem Luster, of New York, William, Prentis, Bennie and Grey Luster, of Yazoo City and three daughters, Edna Luster Washington, of Memphis; Cora Luster and Precious Luster of Detroit, Michigan.

#### Organizes Alcorn Club

Prof. P. S. Bowels, an old Veteran of Alcorn A. & M. College, met with a group of Alcornites of this city, October 26, 1943, for the purpose of organizing an Alcorn Club. The purpose of the club is to boost the morale of its Alma Mater, Alcorn College. A good number of enthusiastic students of Alcorn greeted Prof. Bowels and was very much impressed with what he had to say. The group elected the following officers: Mr. D. W. Lindsey, President, Miss Margaret Taylor, Vice-President, Mrs. Ethel Preston Brooks, Secretary, Mrs. Naomi Huddleston, Treasurer and Mr. T. J. Huddleston, Jr., Reporter. The club promises to be one of the best ever organized.

#### IN THE BULLETIN

##### WATCH THE BULLETIN FOR:

- The Highest Reporting Agents For The Month
- DISTRICT MEETING DATES
- TOTAL NUMBER OF CENTURY DEATHS
- AGENT WHO WRITES THE LARGEST NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH
- AGENT WHO MAKES THE HIGHEST INCREASE IN REMITTANCE DURING THE MONTH
- LEADING DISTRICT MEETING REPORTS
- NEW SUBSCRIBERS
- MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

### Cooperation Urged in Coal Situation

Harold L. Ickes, Solid Fuels Administrator for War, appealed to coal dealers and consumers to cooperate in an effort to alleviate suffering in homes and public institutions, which may be without coal.

"Consumers who have any coal are urgently requested to refrain from ordering more while their neighbors may be without any," the Administrator said. "In some bituminous markets, there has been considerable pyramiding of orders by domestic consumers and surveys in certain areas show that many domestic consumers have sufficient stocks of coal to carry them through the winter. In these same markets, there are also many consumers who are without any coal and who have been unable to purchase sufficient fuel to keep their home warm. These consumers should have first preference from retailers.

"I am asking coal dealers to accept the responsibility of checking the fuel supply of their customers to discover where the need for coal is the most acute. Dealers who have a supply of coal in their yards should limit deliveries to a bare minimum and then make certain that the coal they deliver goes to customers without fuel, rather than fill up the bins of those who may be able to finance orders for their entire winter's supply.

"Dealers in communities where coal has been short and where the weather has turned cold are directed to get in touch immediately with area distribution managers of the Solid Fuels Administration and advise them of the situation in their communities. We will thus be able to distribute the limited amount of coal that we have where it is most needed.

"If the coal situation does not improve quickly it may be necessary to call on householders who have more than normal supplies of coal in their bins to share their stocks with less fortunate neighbors. We hope that this will not be necessary, but the health of those engaged in war production must be protected and I am sure that those fortunate enough to have more than enough coal will not hesitate to share their supply with those who have none."

#### A Thanksgiving Prayer

By CHARLES H. WILSON, Sr.  
Social Science Dept., Alcorn A. & M. College  
Alcorn, Mississippi

Dear Lord: I thank Thee for this beautiful day, for the sunshine and the rain, for winds and clouds, for snow and sleet, even for the raging lightning, storms, and tornadoes. For everything, thou do, dear Lord, I give Thee thanks.

I thank Thee for the severe storm that occurred recently among us, because it caused mankind to again feel that You are still powerful. It made mankind to know that whatever is in the path of a tornado, cyclone, or hurricane, that it will be affected regardless of what it may be, whom you may be, or where you may come from. It made mankind, dear Lord, to see the importance of building substantial dwellings, as well as the adhering to your great teaching, dear Lord, the importance of living together and loving one another. In everything that You do Lord I give Thee thanks.

I am thankful for this great war that we are a part, because as You have said again and again that there will be wars and rumors of wars, and that there are many ways to bring the people together. The recognition that the many minority groups in this country have received, the many open fields of endeavor that were formerly closed to them are attributed to You, Lord, Yes Lord, everything that you do Lord I give thanks. May I thank you Lord for Friendship, for the importance of realizing that mankind can't live by himself regardless of how high you may go. I thank Thee for all Thy blessings, Lord.

#### Soldiers Visit Alcorn College

Alcorn, Miss., Oct. 29—More than one hundred soldiers from Camp Van Dorn, Miss., spent last week-end on the campus of Alcorn A. & M. College as guest of the institution. Among the visitors, there were several former students and graduates of Alcorn.

#### Among Our Men In Service

The following young men from various U. S. Camps have been seen here in recent days: Cpl. Joe Williams, Pvt. Elgin Eubanks, Pvt. Morris Reed, Pvt. Homer Simpson, Pvt. Charles Robinson, Pvt. Cassel Jones, Mr. J. C. Stewart.

The Annual session of the Knights and Daughters of Tabor met in Clarksdale November 1-5, 1943. Those who attended the meeting claim it was one of the best ever held. The attendance was excellent throughout the session, both day and night programs received a crowded house.

The entire program was carefully planned and everything was carried out in first class order. The delegation and friends received a warm welcome from the citizens of Clarksdale and in return citizens received a wealth of information and inspiration.

For a number of years Sir P. M. Smith, Chief Grand Mentor, has been the guiding force of the organization and at this session he was unanimously elected for another term. This reelection is evidence of the high esteem and confidence in which the people have in Sir Smith.

The organization is a progressing Fraternal Order and has recently built for its members and humanity as well, a fine hospital, which is modern in every respect. The hospital is located in Mound Bayou, Mississippi and is the second of its kind to be built and operated in Mississippi by and for Negroes.

#### The Bright and Dark Side

The cities along the Atlantic Seaboard were given permission to turn on their street lights which had been dimmed out for the past nineteen months. It seemed that this would have been met with the hearty approval of all concerned, but it did not. Officials of some cities saw certain dangers in turning on the lights, pointing out that this would impress the people that war was about over and that it would be hard to get the dimout working again in event it was necessary. As sound as the reasons are for the dimout, it is encouraging to know that they are officially ended or suspended.

#### Doors Gradually Opening

The Chicago Surface Lines has notified the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice that applications from Negroes for all types of jobs will be accepted and considered on the same basis as those of white persons, Malcolm Ross, FEPC Chairman, announced today. The company operates all of Chicago's surface railways.

Coincident with this announcement of policy, made October 22, the company revealed that the first Negro platform man has been hired and put to work. Negotiations leading to this settlement of charges of employment discrimination were conducted by the FEPC's regional office in Chicago, which is headed by Elmer W. Henderson.

The agreement, which asserted that employment of qualified Negroes in all categories would be begun immediately, further declared that Negroes under 45 years of age who are hired would be considered permanent employees and not subject to dismissal at the end of the war.

The announcement, made by Fred A. Nolan, general manager of the company, climaxed negotiations with the FEPC which were begun immediately after the opening of the regional office in Chicago in September. The matter was referred to the Committee by the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee and the National Negro Congress.

Prior to the agreement the company, which employs 17,000 persons, had fewer than 100 Negroes on its payroll, using them only as track laborers—the lowest classification. Efforts by white and Negro organizations to have the company hire Negroes as motormen and conductors had been for several years without avail. Similar attempts had been made through State Departments and Commissions, and through the City Council of Chicago.

#### Is This Good News

The life of our bright zinc coated pennies will soon be ended and travelers will be relieved of the trouble of examining their change to make sure it is correct or rather to make sure they have pennies for pennies and not pennies for dimes or nickles. The U. S. Mint has announced that after January 1, 1944 pennies will take on their usual copper color, being made from the copper of used cartridge shells.

#### Dies In Washington, D. C.

Mr. Charles Newman, who had lived in Washington, D. C., for many years, died there a few weeks ago. Mr. Newman was formerly of this city and is well known here among white and colored. His death came suddenly and was a shock to his relatives and friends. He was affectionately known as "Bud Newman." The remains were laid to rest in Washington and the family has the sympathy of many friends here in Yazoo City.